

# **WHAT KEEPS YOU UP AT NIGHT**

## ***Conquering Fear with Faith***

### **SERMON #5: Fear of Disapproval**

**Proverbs 29:25/John 18:12-27**

**Sunday, May 28, 2017**

**Dr. Paul White, Senior Pastor**

**This fear is \_\_\_\_\_.**

*The fear of man lays a snare, but whoever trusts in the Lord is safe. (Proverbs 29:25)*

#### **What it looks like.**

*Nevertheless, many even of the authorities who believed in him, but for fear of the Pharisees they did not confess it, so that they would not be put out of the synagogue; for they loved the glory that comes from man more than the glory that comes from God. (John 12:42-43)*

#### **Where it comes from.**

*My God will reject them because they have not listened to him; they shall be wanderers among the nations. (Hosea 9:17)*

**Why it is a problem.**

*For am I now seeking the approval of man, or of God? Or am I trying to please man? If I were still trying to please man, I would not be a servant of Christ. (Galatians 1:10)*

**EVEN TOUGH GUYS ARE AFRAID...**

*Peter said to him, "Lord, why can I not follow you now? I will lay down my life for you." Jesus answered, "Will you lay down your life for me? Truly, truly, I say to you, the rooster will not crow till you have denied me three times." (John 13:37-38)*

**Surprise \_\_\_\_\_.**

*The servant girl answered the door and said to Peter, "You also are not one of this man's disciples, are you?" He said, "I am not." (John 18:17)*

**\_\_\_\_\_ pressure.**

*Now the servants and officers had made a charcoal fire, because it was cold, and they were standing and warming themselves. Peter also was with them, standing and warming himself...Now Simon Peter was standing and warming himself. So they said to him, "You also are not one of his disciples, are you?" He denied it and said, "I am not." (John 18:18, 25)*

**Open \_\_\_\_\_.**

*One of the servants of the high priest, a relative of the man whose ear Peter had cut off, asked, “Did I not see you in the garden with him?” Peter again denied it, and at once a rooster crowed. (John 18:26-27)*

## **WHY WE FOLLOW JESUS...BUT ARE VULNERABLE TO THE FEAR OF DISAPPROVAL**

**We are full of \_\_\_\_\_.**

*Peter said to him, “Lord, why can I not follow you now? I will lay down my life for you.” Jesus answered, “Will you lay down your life for me? Truly, truly, I say to you, the rooster will not crow till you have denied me three times.” (John 13:37-38)*

**We don’t \_\_\_\_\_ enough.**

*And he came and found them sleeping, and he said to Peter, “Simon, are you asleep? Could you not watch one hour? Watch and pray that you may not enter into temptation. The spirit indeed is willing, but the flesh is weak.” (Mark 14:37-38)*

**We rely on our own \_\_\_\_\_.**

*And behold, one of those who were with Jesus stretched out his hand and drew his sword and struck the servant of the high priest and cut off his ear. Then Jesus said to him, "Put your sword back in its place. For all who take the sword will perish by the sword. Do you think that I cannot appeal to my Father, and he will at once send me more than twelve legions of angels?" (Matthew 26:51-53)*

**We seek false \_\_\_\_\_.**

*Now the servants and officers had made a charcoal fire, because it was cold, and they were standing and warming themselves. Peter also was with them, standing and warming himself. (John 18:18)*

**We follow from a \_\_\_\_\_.**

*Then they seized him and led him away, bringing him into the high priest's house, and Peter was following at a distance. (Luke 22:54)*

## **CONQUERING FEAR WITH FAITH**

*...for God gave us a spirit not of fear but of power and love and self-control. (2 Timothy 1:7)*

**STEP ONE: Choose Humble Dependence**

**STEP TWO: Trust God More**

**STEP THREE: Control Your Thoughts**

**STEP FOUR: Break Strongholds of Fear**

**STEP FIVE: Walk With God**

## **5 STEPS TO FOLLOWING FAITHFULLY**

*Peter was grieved because he said to him the third time, “Do you love me?” and he said to him, “Lord, you know everything; you know that I love you.” Jesus said to him, “Feed my sheep.” (John 21:17)*

**Experience God’s \_\_\_\_\_.**

*You then, my child, be strengthened by the grace that is in Christ Jesus... (2 Timothy 2:1)*

**Enjoy God’s \_\_\_\_\_.**

*But you are the ones chosen by God, chosen for the high calling of priestly work, chosen to be a holy people, God’s instruments to do his work and speak out for him, to tell others of the night-and-day difference he made for you – from nothing to something, from rejected to accepted. (1 Peter 2:9-10 MSG)*

\_\_\_\_\_ **with God.**

*The Lord is on my side; I will not fear. What can man do to me?*  
(Psalm 118:6)

**Prioritize \_\_\_\_\_ God.**

*...just as we have been approved by God to be entrusted with the gospel, so we speak, not to please man, but to please God who tests our hearts.* (1 Thessalonians 2:5)

**Rely on His \_\_\_\_\_.**

*...be filled with the Spirit...* (Ephesians 5:18)

**Legend:**

This fear is dangerous.  
Surprise confrontations.  
Peer pressure.  
Open hostility.  
We are full of ourselves.  
We don't pray enough.  
We rely on our own strength.  
We seek false fellowship.  
We follow from a distance.  
Experience God's grace.  
Enjoy God's acceptance.  
Fellowship with God.  
Prioritize pleasing God.  
Rely on His power.

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